(a) No, Sir. In the last few years, diamond exports grew continuously till 1989-90. Only in 1990-91 did exports decline.

(b) The decline of exports in 1990-91 arose because of recessionary conditions in foreign markets leading to slackness of demand.

(c) and (d) The Government has taken measures to facilitate availability of raw materials for the diamond industry. The depreciation in the value of the rupee is also expected to contribute towards increasing exports.

(e) according to the Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council, the exports of cut and polished diamonds during the calender years 1987 and 1988 were as follows :—

Year	Rs. in Crores
1987	2256.72
1988	3648.97

Maintenance of National Highway passing through Azamgarh and Allahabad

4211. SHRI RAM BADAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Highway between Mohammadpur of Azamgarh district and Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh is in a very poor condition;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for the repairs and development of this Highway;

(c) whether the Government propose to widen the aforesaid sector of the National Highway; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (d) The Central Government is primarily concerned with roads declared as National Highways only. The road from Mohammadpur to Allahabad is not a National Highway but forms a part of the State Road network. As such the Government of Uttar Pradesh is essentially responsible for its development and maintenance.

[English]

World Bank Report on Indian Banking System

4212. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the world Bank has carried out a study of the Indian Banking system;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the recommendations made by the World Bank;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action on these recommendations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (d) The World Bank report dated 26th June, 1990 on the Financial Sector of India has analysed *inter alia* the performance of the Indian banking system. The main recommendations in the report relate to lowering of reserve requirements, reduction in priority sector lending and interest rate liberalisation. Government has set up a High Level Committee under

the Chairmanship of Shri M. Narasimham, to examine all aspects relating to the structure, organisation, functions and procedures of the financial system.

[Translation]

Projects from Rajasthan pending clearance

4213. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the projects and schemes proposed by the Government of Rajasthan pending for clearance; and

(b) the action taken by the Government in each case so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) References about various road and bridge schemes from Rajasthan pending with the Government are mentioned below alongwith their position:

(i) 4 schemes for conversion of State Roads into National Highways and 13 schemes to be taken up under the Economic and Inter-State Importance Programme. These proposals can be considered only after the finalisation of the 8th Plan.

(ii) 33 schemes proposed to be finalised against the augmented Central Road Fund. These would be processed after actual augmentation of the Central Road Fund, which has not yet taken place.

(iii) 15 estimates for works on National Highways. These can be taken up only after Demand for Grants has been passed by the Parliament.

[English]

Civil Construction Jobs by Field Gun Factory, Kanpur

4214. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ordnance Factory Board has allowed the Field Gun Factory, Kanpur to carry out large scale civil construction jobs despite Government orders for austerity and economy of expenditure.

(b) whether the Field Gun Factory, Kanpur in the process of such construction, has been felling trees and plants which were planted about two decades ago;

(c) whether civil contracts have been awarded to a party which was earlier blacklisted by the factory management, and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Three trees had to be felled recently to protect the Administrative Building from structural damage.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

Private Sector participation in Defence production and Exports

4215. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK:
SHRI S. B. SINDAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Projects and